

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 and 21-22 are pending. Claims 9-20 were previously cancelled. Claims 1, 3 and 22 are amended herein. The below Listing of Claims replaces all prior listings of claims and versions in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A system for enabling use of a computer terminal in a network to access or otherwise participate in at least one network-related function and a separate voice communication function over the network, comprising:

a telephone handset including a microphone and a speaker coupled to provide signals to and receive signals from the computer terminal for the voice communication function;

a finger-image sensor coupled at least to provide signals to the computer terminal relating to a finger-image sensed by the finger-image sensor;

means for electronically authenticating a finger-image sensed by a finger-image sensor based on the finger-image-related signals provided to that computer terminal;

means responsive to the authenticating means for enabling the computer terminal in the network to~~[[;]]~~ participate in the voice communication function over the network at least from each computer terminal for which a sensed finger-image was authenticated~~[[;]]~~ and access over the network at least one function ~~application~~ that is not related to and does not depend upon participation by the computer terminal in the voice communication function ~~over the network~~.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 or 3 wherein the enabling means enables voice communication to and from only each terminal for which a sensed finger-image was authenticated.

3. (Currently Amended) A system for enabling use of a computer terminal in a network to access or otherwise participate in at least one network-related function and a separate voice communication function between computer terminals in the network, comprising:

a plurality of computer terminals in the network, each of which comprises:

a microphone and a speaker coupled to the respective computer terminal to provide signals to and receive signals from the respective computer terminal for voice communication; and

a finger-image sensor at least to provide signals to the respective computer terminal relating to a finger-image sensed by the respective finger-image sensor;

the system comprising:

means for electronically authenticating a finger-image sensed by a respective finger-image sensor based on the finger-image-related signals provided to the respective computer terminal; and

means responsive to the authenticating means for enabling the computer terminal for which a sensed finger-image was authenticated to~~[[;]]~~ participate in the voice communications function over the network~~[[;]]~~ and access over the network at least one function application that is not related to and does not depend upon participation by the computer terminal in the voice communication function ~~over the network~~.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1 or 3 wherein at least one of the computer terminals includes the means for authenticating.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 or 3 comprising a computer in the network, other than the computer terminals, that includes the means for authenticating.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 or 3 wherein at least one of the computer terminals includes the means responsive to the authenticating means.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 or 3 comprising a computer in the network, other than the computer terminals, that includes the means responsive to the authenticating means.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 comprising a handset incorporating the microphone and the speaker, wherein the handset is keypadless and each computer terminal includes a computer input device by which information for accessing or otherwise participating in voice communications over the network is input to the computer terminal.

Claims 9-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 or 3 wherein the enabling means enables voice communication only between terminals for which a sensed finger-image was authenticated.

22. (Currently Amended) A system for enabling use of a plurality of computer terminals in a network to participate in the voice communication function over the network, comprising:

a microphone and a speaker for each of the plurality of computer terminals coupled to provide signals to and receive signals from the respective computer terminal for voice communication; and

a finger-image sensor for each of the plurality of computer terminals coupled at least to provide signals to the respective computer terminal relating to a finger-image sensed by the respective finger-image sensor;

means for electronically authenticating a finger-image sensed by a finger-image sensor based on the finger-image-related signals provided to the respective computer terminal; and

means responsive to the authenticating means for enabling at least two of the plurality of computer terminals in the network to participate in the voice communication function over the network with each other only if a sensed finger image was authenticated for each of the at least two terminals.